THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2215. *Friday, Jan.* 16, 1829. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

AT this Theatre *Charles the XIIth. The Illustrious Stranger,* and the Pantomime proved highly attractive last night. Miss Love and Mr. Harley were each encored in a song.

Covent Garden Theatre.

A NEW Opera was produced at this Theatre, last night, entitled *The Nymph of the Grotto; or, the Daughter's Vow.* It was highly and deservedly successful, and possesses, as a Drama, decidedly more interest than generally falls to the lot of these productions. The dialogue and songs are from the pen of Mr. Dimond, and we think it the best of his many successful productions; the language is graceful, and sometimes witty; and the songs superior to most that have latterly been attached to Operas. The Music is by Mr. A. Lee and Signor Liverati; it is light, playful and pretty; with one or two airs of great sweetness. The plot of this Opera is founded on a fact which occured at no very distant period, although the scene of the Opera is laid in the sixteenth century, during the reign of Henri Quatre, whose Queen the beautiful Marguerite de Valois, figures as one of the dramatis personæ. She arrives at the castle of the Baron de Mont Orguiel, (Fawcett,) a gay old gentleman, who has a son, Amadis, (Miss Jarman,) whom, to his great annoyance he finds of the most determined feminine habits and appearance. This reputed son is in fact the Baron's daughter, who has been imposed upon him and, every one else but an old nurse, as a boy, by the Baroness, in consequence of great estates passing away from the family should there be no male heir; the girl when old enough, is forced by her mother's prayers, on her death-bed, to bind herself by a solemn vow never to reveal her sex. Her preservation of her faith is the cause of much embarassment, both to herself and those around her; and many ludicrous and effective situations are the consequence.

At a masquerade, she has, habited as a nymph, seen and loved Hippolite, (Mr. Wood,) this, passion is of course from her assumed sex a source of much misery to her, she is also urged by her Father, to marry her cousin Eglantine, (Madame Vestris) who is, however as averse to the match, as herself, having chosen a lover, Leonce de Montgomerie (Mr. G. Stansbury). Amadis determines once more to see Hippolite in the same dress she had fascinated him at Paris; they meet in the grotto, are interrupted, but make another assignation for the following night; the Queen meanwhile hears of the adventure, supposes some one of her maids of honour to have assumed the mysterious character of the nymph; plots with Marcel [Bartley] an old servant of the Baron's, to discover the nymph; he, during the interview

of the lovers, conceals himself in the grotto, gives the alarm, and intercepts Amadis in her intended flight. The Queen, the Baron, and all the inhabitants of the castle, rush to the entrance of the grotto; Amadis by the command of the Queen is forced to unmask; a discovery ensues, the tale of the daughter is told by Isabeau (Mrs. Gibbs;) and Amadis is made happy with Hyppolite, and her cousin Eglantine with Montgomerie. The acting and singing we will speak of to-morrow. The Opera was most favorably received, and announced for repetition this evening amidst great applause.

We regret more than we can express, to have to record, that the Glasgow Theatre was burnt down between 11 and 12 o'clock on Saturday last.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

Monday—I shall be found seated at the *Diorama*, in the Regent's Park, anxiously admiring the two new Views, the charming Village of Unterseen, and the Cloisters of St. Wandrille—quite bewitching! About two, I pop in to see Mr. Burford's enchanting View of Sydney, in New South Wales, and the City and Bay of Genoa, in Leicester Square. On my return, I view his Exhibition of *The Battle of Navarino*, and *Paris*, Strand—very beautiful.

On Tuesday I wander through the various apartments of that popular and attractive lounge, the Royal Bazaar, 73, Oxford Street, and view The British Diorama, The Descent from the Cross, and the French Child, with the singular inscription of '*Napoleon, Empereur*' in its eyes.

On Wednesday, I step into the Horse Bazaar, Baker Street—inspect the magnificent Exhibition of Musical and Mechanical Automata—Musical Lady, Juvenile Artist, Rope Dancer, Magician, Walking Figure, a magnificent Vase, made by order of Napoleon, Birds, &c. In the afternoon, I qualify Mrs. P.'s discordant notes with some harmony divine and may be found between 1 and 4 o'clock, at *The Apollonicon*; in St. Martin's Lane.

On Thursday, I step into Mr. J. J. Vallotton's, French Bazaar, 1, Old Cavendish Street, to see his *New Invented Gold*, which is Manufactured into every Fashionable Article—surpasses every thing that has been invented in this Country for Elegance and Durability—always remember Mrs. Pry in my purchases—charming woman! In the evening, I drop into Covent Garden Theatre—Morton's *Sublime and Beautiful* attracts great houses—Miss Hughes's singing delightful—shall certainly pay my friend, Alexander Lee, a visit, and buy 'The Hunter's Signal Horn,' and 'The Lover's Chains.'

On Friday, I shall look in on Mr. Finn, in Regent Street, at his *Fancy Glass-working Exhibition*—an ingenious pretty Workshop. Afterwards, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

On Saturday, after dinner, Mrs. Pry amuses me with neighbouring tattle, while we sip charming Port or Sherry, had from the cheap London and Westminster Wine and Spirit Company, Strand.

In the evening, went to Drury—saw Planche's successful Drama, 'Charles the Twelfth'—heard Miss Love sing her beautiful song, 'Rise gentle Moon'—most enthusiastically encored—elegant composition, by John Barnett—will be as popular as 'The Light Guitar.'

Not to be out of fashion, I drop in at The Choar Divan, *King Street, Covent Garden*;—with first-rate Cigars, excellent Coffee, the Magazines, Newspapers, &c. (for, as Mingle says, "there are lots!") I whirl away an hour—get my box filled with prime snuff, and then for the Theatres—oops! I intrude, beg pardon.

Your's. PAUL PRY

P. S. Called in at Wybrow's Music Warehouse—saw Sidney Waller—gave me a copy of "*Love from the Heart*,"—annexed a full length portrait of the charming Miss Love, as *Don Giovanni*, by Gauci—excellent likeness—asked him to sing Love's last new song,—"The Lightest Bark"—beautiful melody—great fit.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, 2nd time, a New Opera, called, The

Nymph of the Grotto;

Or, a Daughter's Vow.

Music by A. Lee and Liverati, new Scenery, Dresses, &c.

Hyppolite, Mr WOOD, Baron of Mont Orguiel, Mr FAWCETT,
Leonce de Montgomerie, Mr G. STANSBURY,
Marcel, Mr BARTLEY, Soubise, Mr HENRY, D'Aumont, Mr IRWIN.
Amadis, Miss JARMAN, Isabeau, Mrs GIBBS,
Marguerite, Mrs CHATTERLEY, Eglantine, Madame VESTRIS,
Estelle, Miss CAWSE, Adela, Miss PHILLIPS.

After which, (19th time) a new Grand Comic Pantomime, called

HARLEQUIN AND

Little Red Riding Hood

Invented and Produced by Mr Farley—Music by Watson & Woderch

The Wizard, or Brown Man of the Hill, Mr EVANS,
Humpo, his Son.....(changed to the Wolf,).....Mr E.J. PARSLOE,
Barley-dust, (afterwards Pantaloon,) Mr T. BLANCHARD,
Colin, his Apprentice,.....(afterwards Harlequin.).....Mr ELLAR,
Granny Rose, (afterwards Clown,) Mr J. S. GRIMALDI,
Driver of the Diligence, Mr COLLETT, Cobler, Mr MILLER,
The Yacht Club, Messrs. Austin, Heath, Sutton, &c.
The Genius of the Rose, (Protectress of Rose,) Miss WATSON,
Rose, called Rose d'Amour, (Afterwards Colombine,) Miss EGAN,
Old Nurse, Miss Shivers, Flower Girls, Mrs Brown, &c.

NEW SCENERY.

Scene 1 The Chaotic Dwelling of the Wizard, which disappears and shews the City of Rouen; in Normandy [Grieve] 2 Rouen Cathedral, with the Bridge of Boats, the Miller's House and Mill [W. Grieve] 3 The Forest of Nouvelles, with Granny Rose's Cottage by Sunset [Grieve] 4 Inside of Granny Rose's Cottage [T. Grieve] 5 The Rosy Bower [Ditto] 6 Outside of the Messagerie Royale, [W. Grieve] 7 Distant View of the Isle of Wight, at the time of the Regutia [T. Grieve] 8 St. John's Gate, Southampton [W. Grieve] 9 The New Post Office [Ditto] 10 Doctor's Shop, and his neighbour, the Undertaker's [Findlay]—11 Opening of St. Katharine's Docks, with Vessels [W. Grieve] 12 Outside of Sadler's Repository [Findlay] 13 St. Dunstan's Church—Temple bar—and Fleet Street, by Moonlight [W. Grieve] 14 Waterloo Bridge, at a distance by night [Grieve] 15 The Nursery Ground [Grieve] 16 A Cavern 17 Roberts's Moving Panorama; or, The Russian Army's March to Turkey—comprehending the following Scenery: St. Petersburgh, Mountains and Fortresses. The Night Watch. Ambuscade and Battle. The halt of the Caravan in the Desert, at Sunset; The Fleet; The Dardanelles; The Castle of the Seven Towers, and general View of Constantinople.—The Whole Painted by Mr. Roberts. 18 Spar Caverns [Grieve] 19 The Palace of Roses [W. Grieve.]

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, (26th time) a new Historical Tragedy, called

RIENZI.

Cola Rienzi.....Mr YOUNG,
Stephen Colonna, Mr YOUNGE,
AngeloColonna, MrCOOPER, Ursini, MrJ.VINING,
Sevelli, Mr AITKEN, Cafarello, Mr LEE,
Frangipani, Mr BLAND, Alberti, Mr THOMPSON.
Lady Colonna.....Mrs FAUCIT,
Claudia.....Miss PHILLIPS.

After which, (19th time) a Grand Comic Pantomime, entitled

The Queen Bee;

Or, Harlequin and the Fairy Hive.

Invented and Produced by Mr Barrymore—The Music by R. Hughes

The Queen Bee, Miss PINCOTT,
The Drone, Mr ALFRED, Fortuna, Miss NICOL.
Harlequin Senior.....(afterwards Pantaloon).....Mr BARNES,
The Doubtful Son, (afterwards Harlequin) Mr HOWELL,
Master Agile Harlequin, Master CHIKINI,
PiccaninnyHarlequin, Mas.LANE, AngelicaHarlequin, MissFENTON
Pierot, Mr USHER, Scaramouch, Master WIELAND,
Clown, Mr SOUTHBY, The Widow Pantalina, Mr BARTLETT,
Little Margary, (afterwards Columbine) Miss RYAL,
The Bohemian Brothers, (with a National Melody) Mess. Yarnold, Robinson, Nelson, and Sheriff.
Mons. Sauteur, Mas. BAKER, Miss Giblet, Master WIELAND,
New Married Couple, Mr CATHIE and Mrs WEBSTER.

NEW SCENERY.

Scene 1 The Fairy Hive (Marinari) 2 Queen Bee's Palace by Moonlight (Andrews) 3 Harlequin's Country House (Andrews) 4 Harlequin's Bed Room (Marinari) 5 Brick Fields, at Islington (Andrews) 6 An increasing Neighbourhood 7 Bull and Mouth, Regent Street (Adams) 8 Exterior of a Country Theatre (Franklin) 9 Opera Colonnade 10 Butcher's Shop & Dancing Academy 11 The Ball Room 12 Royal Bazaar, Oxford Street (Adams) 13 New Diorama, with Stanfield's Grand Moving Picture, representing the following Views:—Spithead at Sunrise, Entrance to Portsmouth Harbour—The Dock Yard—Upper Harbour—Gosport—Mother Bank, Isle of Wight, with the Royal Yacht Club, introducing the Exhibition of Cowes Regatta—The Needles by Moonlight—The Ocean—The Rock of Gibraltar (Stanfield) 14 A Village near London (Andrews) 15 A Statute Fair, (Marinari) introducing the Surprising Foreign Dwarf 16 Picturesque Landscape 17 Gloomy Forest (Andrews) 18 Temple of Industry (Marinari)

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